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B I L L

TO

Amend the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, and for other purposes connected with Labourers Dwellings in Ireland. A.D. 1885.

BE it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

5 **1.** This Act may be cited as the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1885. Short title.

Leases of Land by Agreement and otherwise.

2. Any limited owner shall have power to grant leases to a sanitary authority for the purposes of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, subject to the following restrictions:— Power of limited owner to make leases 45 & 47 Vict. c. 60.

- 10 (1.) The term of any lease shall not exceed *ninety-nine* years.
 (2.) The lease shall not include any mansion-house, home farm, or demesne lands.
 (3.) The lease shall take effect in possession or within *one year* after the execution thereof, and not in reversion; and there shall be reserved thereby the best yearly rent which can reasonably be obtained, to be incidental to the immediate reversion, without taking anything in the nature of a fine, premium, or foregift.
 15 (4.) The sanitary authority shall execute a counterpart of the lease.
 20

3. Upon the application of either the limited owner or the sanitary authority, the Court may confirm any lease granted or proposed to be granted by a limited owner under this Act; and the Court may, if it thinks fit, confirm or refuse to confirm any such
 25 lease with or without modifications, and the confirmation of any

[Bill 68.]

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A.D. 1883. such lease shall be deemed conclusive evidence of the lease being within the powers of this Act; but a lease purporting to be made by a limited owner under this Act shall not be questioned by reason only of its not having been confirmed by the Court.

Compulsory
powers of
taking land
for a term
of years.

4.—(1.) For the purposes of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, 5
the Local Government Board may, by provisional order confirming
any scheme under that Act, empower a sanitary authority to take
compulsorily any lands referred to in such order for any term of
years, not exceeding *ninety-nine* years, at a rent to be determined
in case of difference in the manner provided by this Act. 10

(2.) When such provisional order has been confirmed or has
become absolute, the sanitary authority, or the owner of the land
proposed to be taken, may, within the prescribed time and in the
prescribed manner, apply to the Court for an order fixing the rent,
terms, provisions, and conditions at and subject to which the land 15
is to be taken by the sanitary authority; and notice of such applica-
tion shall be given to the prescribed persons and in the prescribed
manner.

(3.) The Court shall thereupon proceed to adjudicate upon such
application, and shall make an order in each case determining the 20
rent, covenants, conditions, and other incidents affecting the
tenancy of the said land; subject, however, to the several restric-
tions affecting leases to be granted by a limited owner in pursuance
of this Act.

Such order of the Court shall operate in the same manner as if it 25
were a lease made by a limited owner of the land and confirmed
by the Court in pursuance of this Act, and shall be subject to the
same stamp duty as if it were a lease: Provided that the Court
may, if they think fit, require the sanitary authority to prepare and
tender for execution by the lessor a lease of the land upon the terms 30
as to rent and otherwise determined by the Court, and to execute
and deliver a counterpart of such lease, at the expense of the
sanitary authority.

(4.) This section shall apply whether the owner of the land
proposed to be taken is under any disability or not. 35

Rules.

5. The practice of the Court, and their sittings, and the mode of
making applications, and the giving of notices to persons interested,
and the publication of notices and advertisements, and of any orders
of the Court, and the fixing and appointing of the time at which
anything is required to be done, and generally all the procedure 40
incident to the performance by the Court of the duties imposed on

them by this Act, shall be regulated by rules made under section fifty of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1851, and that section shall be applied for the purposes of this Act as if such purposes had been specified therein.

A.D. 1851.
44 & 45 Vict.
c. 48.

- 5 6. If part only of the land charged with any Crown rent, quitrent, rentcharge, or fee-farm rent, is required to be taken for a term of years under the compulsory powers of this Act by a sanitary authority, the apportionment of any such Crown rent, quitrent, or rentcharge, or fee-farm rent may be settled by agreement between
10 the party entitled to sue for the same and the owner of the lands on the one part and the sanitary authority on the other part, and if such apportionment is not settled by agreement the same shall be settled by the Court; and the Crown, or the owner of the rentcharge or fee-farm rent, shall have all the same rights and remedies for the
15 recovery of such apportioned parts respectively against the lands taken and the lands not taken by the sanitary authority as previously to such apportionment subsisted for the recovery of the entire.

Apportionment of rent-charge.
23 & 24 Vict.
c. 97.

7. If any land is comprised in a lease for a life or lives, or in a letting for a term of years, or from year to year, part only of
20 which land is required to be taken for a term of years under the compulsory powers of this Act by the sanitary authority, the rent payable in respect of the land comprised in such lease or letting shall be apportioned between the land so required and the residue of such land; and such apportionment may be settled by agree-
25 ment between the landlord and tenant of such land on the one part, and the sanitary authority on the other part; and if such apportionment be not so settled by agreement such apportionment shall be settled by the Court; and after such apportionment, the tenant of such land shall, as to all future accruing rent, be liable only to
30 so much of the rent as shall be apportioned in respect of the land not taken by the sanitary authority; and as to the land not so taken, and as against the tenant, the landlord shall have the same rights and remedies for the recovery of such portion of rent as previously to such apportionment he had for the recovery of the
35 whole rent, and all the terms and conditions of the tenancy shall remain in force with regard to that part of the land not taken by the sanitary authority in the same manner as they would have done in case such part only had been subject to the tenancy.

Apportionment of rent where part of any land held subject to rent is taken.

8. The Court may award to the owner and occupier of any land
40 taken for a term of years in respect of any loss, injury, or damage suffered by them in consequence of the taking of such land, and not compensated for by the rent payable to such owner, or by the
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Compensation for loss by compulsory taking of land.

A.D. 1885. apportionment of the rent payable by such occupier, and to every other person having any estate, interest, or right in the land, such other compensation as might have been awarded by an arbitrator under the sections of the Lands Clauses Acts which relate to the taking of land otherwise than by agreement.

Re-hearings.

9. In the case of an order of the Court concerning land proposed to be taken for a term of years, the sanitary authority proposing to take the land, or the owner of, or any person having any estate, interest, or right in such land, shall have the same right to a re-hearing, where the order has been made by one member of the Land 10 Commission, or by a sub-Commission, as is given by sections forty-four and forty-eight of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, to a person aggrieved by any order referred to in those sections; and the provisions of the last mentioned section relative to cases stated for the Court of Appeal in Ireland shall apply to proceedings under 15 this Act.

44 & 45 Vict.
c. 49.

Persons
under
disability.

10. The guardian of any minor, and the committee of the estate of any idiot or lunatic, shall, for the purposes of this Act, represent such minor, idiot, or lunatic.

Where there is no guardian or committee of the estate of a 20 person under such disability as aforesaid, or where any person the committee of whose estate if he were idiot or lunatic would be authorised to represent such person is of unsound mind or incapable of managing his affairs, but has not been found idiot or lunatic by inquisition, the Court may from time to time appoint a guardian 25 for such person for the purposes of this Act. The Court may from time to time appoint for the same purposes a person to act as next friend for a married woman.

Effect of
lease.

11.—(1.) Any letting made in pursuance of this Act by agreement or otherwise shall be valid against the person making the same, 30 and against all persons entitled to any incumbrance, estate, or interest in the land, either paramount or subsequent to the estate or interest of such person. Any such letting made in pursuance of this Act by a body corporate shall bind all the estate and interest of such body corporate.

23 & 24 Vict.
c. 154.

(2.) In every such letting there shall be implied the covenants and conditions on behalf of the lessor and lessees respectively mentioned in sections forty-one and forty-two of the Landlord and Tenant Law Amendment Act (Ireland) 1860, other than the covenant for absolute title on the part of the lessor. 40

Provisional Orders.

A.D. 1883.

Provisional
order may
be confirmed
by the Privy
Council.
46 & 47 Viet.
c. 60.

12.—(1.) So much of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, as enacts that a provisional order made by the Local Government Board as therein mentioned, shall not be of any validity until and unless it has been confirmed by Act of Parliament; and all other provisions of that Act relative to the confirmation by Parliament of such orders, shall be and are hereby repealed.

(2.) A provisional order of the Local Government Board for confirming an improvement scheme under the said Act or under this Act shall become absolute and shall take effect, unless:

(a.) The order authorises the purchase of any land otherwise than by agreement, or the taking of any land for a term of years otherwise than by agreement, and a petition against the order, signed by an owner of land proposed to be purchased or taken otherwise than by agreement, is lodged with the Local Government Board; or,

(b.) A petition against the order, signed by not less than three ratepayers liable to pay rates in respect of property situate within the area declared by such order to be chargeable, is lodged with the Local Government Board.

Petitions under this section may be lodged within such time, not less than one month after the making and publication of the provisional order, as the Board may from time to time by regulation prescribe.

(3.) Whenever a petition is lodged against any order, the Local Government Board may make application to the Lord Lieutenant, acting with the advice of the Privy Council in Ireland, for an Order in Council confirming the order, and shall inform the sanitary authority who obtained the provisional order that a petition against it has been lodged and an application made to the Lord Lieutenant in Council to confirm the order.

The sanitary authority may appear in support of such application.

It shall be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant by Order in Council to confirm, or to disallow, any provisional order, and, in case of confirmation of an order, to make such amendments therein, or of any improvement scheme thereby provisionally confirmed, and to add such terms and conditions, as may be set out in the Order in Council.

(4.) A provisional order confirmed by Order in Council, also a provisional order which under this Act does not require to be so

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confirmed, shall be of the same effect as if it had been confirmed by Parliament.

(5.) The making of a provisional order shall be *prima facie* evidence that all the requirements of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, in respect of proceedings required to be taken previously to the making of such provisional order, have been complied with.

(6.) The costs of all parties of and incident to an application for the confirmation of a provisional order shall be in the discretion of the Lord Lieutenant in Council, and an order respecting costs shall be enforceable as if it were an order of the Chancery Division of the High Court.

(7.) The Lord Lieutenant in Council may from time to time make such general rules as may seem fit for regulating the procedure under this section and generally for carrying it into effect, and for fixing the amount of any fees, and the taxation and payment of any costs, to be taken, allowed, and paid in relation to the confirmation of provisional orders. Such general rules shall be published in the Dublin Gazette, and shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

Amendment
of provi-
sional orders
made before
this Act.

13. The Local Government Board may, if they think fit, amend any provisional order made by them before the passing of this Act and confirmed by Parliament, as follows:—

Where the provisional order empowers a sanitary authority to put in force the provisions of the Lands Clauses Acts relative to the purchase and taking of land otherwise than by agreement, with reference to lands specified in such order, the Local Government Board may declare that the enactments contained in this Act relative to the taking of land for a term of years shall apply to such lands or some of them; and may fix the such term.

Such declaration may be made by provisional order; in this Act referred to as an amending provisional order.

The provisions of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, and of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, requiring certain matters and things to be done before the Local Government Board make any provisional order, shall not apply to an amending provisional order under this Act.

The sanitary authority shall serve a copy of an amending provisional order in the manner and upon the persons in which and upon whom the provisional order thereby amended was served.

An amending provisional order shall become absolute, and shall take effect without any Order in Council confirming the same, unless a petition against the order, signed by some owner of land proposed to

be taken for a term of years, is lodged with the Local Government Board within such time, not less than one month after the making and publication of the amending provisional order, as the Local Government Board may from time to time by regulation prescribe.

A.D. 1883.

5 An amending provisional order against which a petition is lodged shall be dealt with in the same manner as other opposed provisional orders are directed to be dealt with under this Act.

Additional Powers of Sanitary Authorities.

10 14.—(1.) After the making of an improvement scheme by a sanitary authority and before the making of a provisional order by the Local Government Board authorising such scheme to be carried into execution, the sanitary authority may propose for the consideration of the Local Government Board any amendments in such scheme which they think necessary, but not so as to alter the proposed area of charge.

Amend-
ments in
schemes.

The sanitary authority shall give such public advertisement of any amendment as the Local Government Board may from time to time by order direct. Such advertisement shall name a convenient place where a copy of such amendments, with a map, 20 may be inspected by any person interested, at any reasonable time.

If in any such amendments any lands are proposed to be acquired otherwise than by agreement, either by way of absolute purchase or for a term of years, the sanitary authority shall serve upon owners or reputed owners, lessees or reputed lessees, and occupiers, of such 25 lands, the notices which they are required to serve under the seventh section of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, in the manner thereby prescribed.

Such notices shall be served during the month next following the month in which the advertisement is published, or at such other 30 interval of time as the Local Government Board may order.

The Local Government Board may on proof of the giving of such advertisement and the service of such notices, where necessary, take the proposed amendments into consideration, with the original scheme; and shall if necessary direct a local inquiry to be held with 35 respect to such amendments, and may make a provisional order authorising the scheme, with such amendments, to be carried into effect. The Local Government Board shall not adopt any amend-

A.D. 1885. — ments in a scheme if such amendments would, in their opinion, materially add to the estimated cost of the scheme.

(2.) The Local Government Board may refer back any scheme to the Sanitary Authority, for the purpose of considering, and, if they think fit, submitting to the Local Government Board, any amendments therein which the Local Government Board may consider necessary.

The Local Government Board may correct any mistakes or technical defects in any scheme, on such terms as they may think fit.

Powers of the sanitary authority relative to purchase existing cottages, and allot land to existing cottages.

15. A sanitary authority acting in execution of the Labourers 10 (Ireland) Act, 1883, may purchase and put into repair any existing cottage, or may purchase any existing cottage which does not require to be put into repair; and may make additions to and improvements in, any cottage purchased by them; and may let any cottage purchased by them to an agricultural labourer, under the 15 conditions prescribed by the said Act. A sanitary authority having any existing cottage, or purchasing any existing cottage, may purchase any land for the purpose of letting it to the tenant of such cottage, being an agricultural labourer, if such land is so situated as to be suitable for that purpose: Provided that the land 20 to be let to any one such person shall not exceed half an acre.

Provided also that—

A sanitary authority shall not let, or permit to be held, any land acquired by them under the said Act as amended by this Act, to or by any person who is not also tenant to the sanitary authority of a 25 dwelling-house.

The power to purchase lands and cottages conferred by this section shall include a power to take lands and cottages for a term of years.

Section fourteen of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, shall not apply to any cottage purchased and put into repair by a sanitary 30 authority.

The powers conferred by this section shall be in addition to the powers vested in sanitary authorities by the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, and the provisions of that Act, as herein amended, shall apply to the execution of such powers, and the carrying into effect 35 any of the purposes of this section.

Closing of dwellings unfit for habitation.

16.—(1.) When upon a local inquiry as to any scheme under the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, it is established to the satisfaction of an inspector of the Local Government Board that any house occupied as a dwelling-house by a labourer is unfit for human habi- 40

tation, the inspector shall specially report the facts of the case to the Local Government Board. And it shall be the duty of the sanitary authority promoting such scheme, by notice in writing, to require the owner of such house to cease to permit it to be used as a dwelling-house.

A.D. 1885.

If such notice is not obeyed, a court of summary jurisdiction, on the application of the sanitary authority, which application they are hereby required to make, may order the house to be demolished or prohibit the using of such house as a dwelling-house until in the judgment of the court of summary jurisdiction it has been rendered fit for human habitation; and on the court of summary jurisdiction being satisfied that it has been rendered fit for that purpose, the Court may determine its previous order by another declaring the house habitable, and from the date thereof such house may be let and inhabited.

(2.) In any proceedings under this section a special report of an inspector of the Local Government Board shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts stated therein; and a copy purporting to be signed by an inspector shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be a true copy of such report.

(3.) Any person wilfully acting contrary to an order of prohibition under this section shall on conviction before a court of summary jurisdiction be liable to a penalty not exceeding *ten shillings* for every day during which such disobedience continues.

Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any penalty to which he would have been subject if this section had not been passed: Provided that no person who has been adjudged to pay any penalty under this section shall for the same offence be liable to a penalty under any other Act.

(4.) A sanitary authority may, if they think fit, postpone serving a notice under this section until such time as they are in a position to supply house accommodation for the persons occupying any dwelling-house to which such notice relates.

(5.) The enactments contained in the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, relative to proceedings for recovery of penalties and to notices, shall apply to this section.

41 & 42 Vict.
c. 52.

Miscellaneous.

16.—(1.) The advertisements mentioned in section seven of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, may be published in one of the months therein mentioned, or in one of the months of March, April, or May.

Miscellaneous
amendments
of Act of
1883.
46 & 47 Vict.
c. 60.

[68.]

B

A.D. 1885.

(2.) The notices to owners, lessees, and occupiers of lands proposed to be taken compulsorily, mentioned in the same section, shall state in the case of each parcel of land whether it is proposed to be taken for a term of years or otherwise.

(3.) When an improvement scheme has been made by a sanitary authority a duplicate of every map, and of all particulars and books of reference relative to such scheme, transmitted by the sanitary authority under the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, or this Act, to the Local Government Board, shall be deposited by the sanitary authority for public inspection with the clerk of the peace of the county to which the scheme relates. If the scheme relates to more counties than one, so much only of the said maps, particulars, and books of reference as relates to each such county need be deposited with the clerk of the peace for that county. The Act passed in the first year of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter eighty-three, prescribing the duties of clerks of the peace in relation to documents deposited with them shall apply to all deposits made under this section. This section shall apply to amendments in an improvement scheme in the same manner as it applies to a scheme.

S. & 9 Vict.
c. 20, s. 7.

(4.) Section seven of the Railways Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, relative to the correction of accidental mistakes in plans or books of reference, shall be incorporated with the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, and this Act, as if a provisional order were the special Act therein mentioned and a board of guardians were the company.

Definitions.
46 & 47 Vict.
c. 60, §.

18. So much of the twenty-first section of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, as defines an agricultural labourer shall be and is hereby repealed.

The expression "agricultural labourer" in the said Act and in this Act shall mean a person whose principal occupation is the doing of agricultural work for hire on the land of some other person or persons, and includes a herdsman. The term does not include any person who is not paid for his labour by wages.

The expression "limited owner" shall mean :

(1.) Any person entitled under any existing or future settlement at law or in equity, for his own benefit and for the term of his own life, to the possession or receipt of the rents and profits of land, whether subject or not to incumbrances, in which the estate for the time being is an estate for lives or years renewable for ever, or is an estate renewable for a term of not less than ninety-nine years, or is an estate for a term of years of which not less than ninety-nine is unexpired, or is a fee-farm grant, or is a greater estate than any of the foregoing estates.

(2.) Any body corporate, any corporation sole, ecclesiastical or lay, any trustees in receipt of rents and profits, guardians of infants, committees of lunatics or idiots, and any commissioners or trustees for ecclesiastical, collegiate, or other public purposes, entitled at law or in equity to the receipt of the rents and profits of any land in which the estate for the time being is such estate as aforesaid.

A.D. 1885.

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The expression "settlement" shall mean any deed, will, agreement for a settlement, or other agreement, Act of Parliament or other instrument, or any number of instruments, whether made or passed before or after the passing of this Act, under or by virtue of which instrument or instruments any land, or any estate or interest in land, stands for the time being limited to or in trust for any persons by way of succession.

The expression "the court" shall mean the Irish Land Commission.

The Irish Land Commission may delegate to any sub-commission constituted under the forty-third section of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, such of the powers conferred on them by this Act as they think expedient, and may from time to time revoke, alter, or modify any powers so delegated to a sub-commission.

The expression "prescribed" shall mean prescribed by rules made by the Irish Land Commission.

Other terms and expressions used in this Act have the same meaning respectively as in the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883.

19. A lease made under this Act, by agreement or otherwise, may be in the form contained in the schedule to this Act, or to the like effect, with such modifications as the circumstances of any case may require.

Form of lease.

20. All powers given by this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other powers conferred by any other Act, and such other powers may be exercised in the same manner as if this Act had not been passed.

Saving for other Acts.

21. In the twenty-second section of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1883, seven years shall be substituted for five years, as the fixed term for the continuance of that Act.

Continuance of Act, 45 & 47 Vict. c. 60.

A.D. 1885.

SCHEDULE.

FORM OF LEASE BY LIMITED OWNER.

This indenture made the day of between
A.B. of and the sanitary authority of the rural
 sanitary district of of the other part: 5

Whereas *A.B.* is a limited owner within the meaning of the
 48 & 49 Vict. Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1885, of the hereditaments herein-after
 described:

And whereas the said *A.B.* has agreed to demise the said heredi-
 taments to the said sanitary authority in manner herein-after 10
 appearing:

Now this indenture witnesses that in pursuance of the said agree-
 ment, and in consideration of the rent and covenants herein-after
 reserved and contained, he the said *A.B.* doth by these presents,
 made in execution of the power vested in him under the said Act, 15
 and of all other estates and powers in anywise enabling him, appoint
 and demise to the said sanitary authority, their successors and
 assigns, all [parcels] in the barony
 of county of , with the appur-
 tenances , to hold unto the said sanitary authority, their 20
 successors and assigns, from the day of last,
 for the term of years, yielding and paying during the
 said term the yearly rent of £ by equal half-yearly payments,
 the first of such payments to be made on the day of
 next: 25

And the said sanitary authority do hereby for themselves, their
 successors and assigns, covenant with the said *A.B.* and his assigns
 in manner following:

[Insert here any covenants of the lessees which may have been
 agreed on; as with respect to payment of grand jury cess, making 30
 fencibles, or the like.]

In this lease, whenever the assigns of the said *A.B.* are men-
 tioned, the term "assigns" shall be construed to include the person
 or persons for the time being entitled to the reversion of the
 said premises immediately expectant upon the said term hereby 35
 granted.

In witness, &c.

INDORSEMENT.

A.D. 1885.

Received this day of of the sanitary
authority of the rural sanitary district of a
counterpart of the within written indenture duly executed by them
5 under their common seal.

Labourers (Ireland)
(No. 2).

B I L L

To amend the Labourers (Ireland) Act,
1862, and for other purposes connected
with Labourers Dwellings in Ireland.

(Proposed and brought in by
Mr. Campbell-Bannerman and Mr. Ashurst,
Secretaries for Ireland.)

Ordered by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
10 February 1881.

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[State 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]

[State 2. 1. 1.]